

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DACCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175392

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 175392 ACTION NEW DELHI INFO ISLAMABAD KABUL
MOSCOWTEHRAN 11 AUG

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175392

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, EGIN, IN

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SECRETARY'S CONVERSATION WITH
AMBASSADOR KAUL, AUGUST 10

1. THE SECRETARY MET WITH INDIAN AMBASSADOR KAUL AT
12:45 P.M., AUGUST 10. ALSO PRESENT WERE ECONOMIC
MINISTER RAMAKRISHNA, SCIENCE ATTACHE ANANDAKRISHNAN,
NEA ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON, H.APPELBAUM, NSC STAFF,
AND MORLEY (NEA/INS).

2. AMBASSADOR CONVEYED CONGRATULATIONS OF INDIAN
PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER ON
DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION OF ADMINISTRATIONS AND EXPRESSED
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HIS PLEASURE AT INTENTION EXPRESSED IN PRESIDENT'S LETTER

TO PM TO CONTINUE FAVORABLE TREND IN INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. SECRETARY REPLIED THAT PRESIDENT HAD ASKED HIM TO EXPRESS HIS STRONG INTEREST IN CONTINUED GOOD INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. SECRETARY EMPHASIZED MAIN LINES OF POLICY WOULD BE CONTINUED, THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAD SET A FIRM COURSE, AND THE DIRECTION TOWARD IMPROVEMENT WOULD BE CONTINUED AND STRENGTHENED. SECRETARY INFORMED AMBASSADOR KAUL PRESIDENT HOPED TO MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR SOMETIME WITHIN NEXT 10 DAYS.

3. AMBASSADOR KAUL PRESENTED BRIEF AIDE MEMOIRE ON TARAPUR. HE SAID GOI HAD AGREED NOT TO USE PLUTONIUM EXCEPT FOR RECYCLING PURPOSES AT TARAPUR PLANT. AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR URGENT REPLY ON THIS MATTER. SECRETARY ASSURED HIM MATTER WOULD BE GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY.

4. SWITCHING TO INDIAN RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, AMBASSADOR ASKED SECRETARY TO USE HIS FRIENDSHIP AND INFLUENCE WITH PAKISTAN TO ENCOURAGE POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO INDIAN REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS. HE MENTIONED RECENT PROBLEMS ALONG PAK-AFGHAN BORDER AND SAID THERE HAD BEEN VIOLATION OF AFGHAN AIR SPACE BY PAKISTANI PLANES. AMBASSADOR KAUL SAID BHUTTO USING THIS AS DIVERSION FROM INTERNAL PROBLEMS IN BALUCHISTAN. SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE RESTRAINT EXERCISED ON BOTH SIDES AND THAT USG WOULD NOT WANT TO FIND ITSELF PRESENTED WITH DIFFICULT CHOICES ANOTHER SOUTH ASIAN WAR WOULD POSE. SECRETARY SAID WE WOULD URGE PAKISTAN TO USE RESTRAINT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM AMBASSADOR KAUL, SECRETARY SAID HE WANTED FIRM DATE FIXED FOR HIS VISIT TO INDIA AND NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN HAD RAISED THIS WITH MRS. GANDHI. HIS PREFERENCE WAS FOR A DATE BETWEEN THE 20TH AND 30TH OF OCTOBER.

6. KAUL BROUGHT UP THE PROBLEM OF DEBT RELIEF AND FOREIGN AID. HE SAID 29 MILLION DOLLARS IN DEBT RELIEF WAS NOT SUFFICIENT, THAT INDIA NEEDS MORE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT DEBT RELIEF WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO INDIA
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THAN AID, AND THAT WORLD BANK AND MEMBERS OF AID-INDIA CONSORTIUM WERE HOLDING UP FINAL DECISIONS PENDING US REVIEW OF THIS MATTER. THE SECRETARY INFORMED KAUL HE WAS SEEING SECRETARY SIMON ON MONDAY AND WOULD RAISE THE MATTER WITH A VIEW TOWARD FINDING OUT IF THERE WERE ANY POSSIBILITY FOR US PARTICIPATION AT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN 39 MILLION DOLLARS, WHICH KAUL SAID IS LOWEST OF THREE NEW FORMULAS BEING CONSIDERED BY IBRD.

AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED 50 MILLION DOLLARS OR MORE WAS
NEEDED. KISSINGER UNQUOTE

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